

REMARKS

Claims 11 to 19 were pending in the present application; claims 1 to 10 and 20 were withdrawn. Applicant has amended claims 12 and 18, added claim 21, and canceled claims 1 to 11, 13 to 17, and 20. Claims 12, 18, 19, and 21 remain pending.

Allowable Subject Matter

The Examiner indicated that claims 18 and 19 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicant has amended claim 18 in independent form. Thus, amended claim 18 is now in condition for allowance.

Claim 19 depends from amended claim 18. Thus, amended claim 19 is also in condition for allowance.

§§ 102 and 103 Rejections

The Examiner rejected claims 11 to 17 under 35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 103(a) in view of cited references.

Applicant has canceled claims 11 and 13 to 17, thereby rendering their rejections moot.

Applicant has amended claim 12 to depend from amended claim 18. Thus, amended claim 12 is patentable for at least the same reasons as amended claim 18.

New Claim 21


New claim 21 depends from amended claim 18 and is patentable for at least the same reasons as amended claim 18.

Withdrawn Claims 1 to 10 and 20

Applicant has canceled withdrawn claims 1 to 10 and 20.

Summary

In summary, claims 11 to 19 were pending in the present application; claims 1 to 10 and 20 were withdrawn. Applicant has amended claims 12 and 18, added claim 21, and canceled claims 1 to 11, 13 to 17, and 20. For the above reasons, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the claim objections/rejections and allow claims 12, 18, 19, and 21. Should the Examiner have any questions, please call the undersigned at (408) 382-0480x206.

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Respectfully submitted,



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